(d) if so, the details thereof and the response of Pakistan thereto;

(e) whether the Government raised the issue at any international forum;

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(g) the number of such incidents of assault on officers of Indian Missions in Pakistan during the last three years; and

(h) the steps being taken to stop recurrence of such incidents in the future and to provide adequate security to the officials and the family members of Indian Mission in Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (h). On the morning of 26th October 1996, about 10 Pakistani intelligence operatives broke into the residence of Shri A.K. Wahi, a staff member of our Mission in Islamabad. They forcibly dragged him to a car outside the house and abducted him. While doing so, they seriously injured Smt. Wahi who was hospitalised after the incident.

An immediate protest was lodged through diplomatic channels with the Pakistani authorities and Shri Wahi's safe return was demanded. He was released after being kept five hours in illegal and unwarranted custody. The Pakistani authorities asked us to withdraw Shri Wahi from Islamabad on the allegation that he was indulging in activities incompatible with his official status. This allegation was completely false and baseless. However in keeping with usual diplomatic practice, Shri Wahi and family returned to India on October 31, 1996.

The assault on Shri Wahi was in apparent retaliation for the apprehension of a Pakistan High Commission official in Delhi on 25th October, 1996 while accepting defence-related documents from an Indian contact. The Pakistani official was declared persona non grata.

The Government of India conveyed its deepest concern to the Pakistani authorities at this criminal incident. The Pakistan High Commissioner was summoned to the Ministry of External Affairs twice and was informed that this abhorrent action was in flagrant violation of all norms of accepted diplomatic practice and the India-Pakistan Code of Conduct for the Treatment of Diplomatic/Consular Personnel. It was demanded that Pakistan should take all necessary steps for the safety and security of our personnel in Islamabad. The same views were conveyed by our High Commission in Islamabad to the Pakistan Foreign Office.

The India-Pakistan Code of Conduct for the Treatment of Diplomatic/Consular Personnel provides an instrument to address these concerns and we are scrupulously adhering to its stipulations.

There have been 6 incidents of assault on officials of our Mission in Islamabad in the last three years.

Regrettably, it appears that the Pakistani authorities are not taking effective measures to control the intimidating and criminal activities of their intelligence agencies against our officials in Islamabad. We have informed Pakistan that the recurrence of such incidents cannot but negatively impact on India-Pakistan relations.

[English]

Election to Non-permanent seat in UN Security Council

*143. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA
DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIA

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether India was defeated by Japan in the election to the Non-permanent seat in the UN Security Council;

(b) whether the Government have examined the reasons, particularly the poor support from the non-aligned and third world countries;

(c) if so, the main points thereof;

(d) the steps taken to win the election;

(e) the number of countries that voted for India and Japan respectively and the number of countries abstained from voting;

(f) whether it is a fact that several member countries were supporting India's candidature and the situation had changed due to India's stand on C.T.B.T.;

(g) if so, the details thereof;

(h) the likely impact of this defeat on our chances of becoming permanent member in the UN Security Council; and

(i) the remedial steps that are being taken to strengthen India's position in the international arena?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (i). India obtained 40 votes in the election to the non-permanent seat on the UN Security Council for the term 1997-98. Japan polled 142 votes and was elected. No country abstained during the voting.

2. A careful assessment of all the factors relevant to this outcome has been made. The decision to contest the non-permanent seat in the Security Council for the term 1997-98 was taken in 1994. Strong efforts were made to project India's case. The Government took several steps to apprise other Governments of the strong merits of our candidature. These measure included approaches in various capitals and to diplomatic missions in New Delhi, presence in regional summit meetings, interaction through special envoys to foreign capitals and visitors to New Delhi and high level communications. The Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations was also continuously engaged in this

effort. Campaigning for the Indian candidature was extensive, multipronged and sustained till the time of voting.

3. In a secret ballot of this kind voting intensions of countries are not fully disclosed and no precise reasons can be adduced for the lack of support. However, it can be concluded that India's firm and principled position on the CTBT had a bearing on the outcome. For some countries considerations of economic self-interest would have been the decisive factor in thier vote.

4. India's case of a permanent seat on the UN Security Council is a distinct and separate issue. Discussions on restructuring of the Security Council are taking place in an Open Ended Working Group of the United Nations, whose recommendations will be on the basis of consensus. After extension, the Group is expected to conclude its work by September 1997. No consensus is so far discernible within the Working Group on the question of increase in the permanent members' category or the criteria that should govern the expansion and inclusion of new permanent members. India supports the expansion of both permanent and non-permanent members' categories. We have stressed the need for formulation of objective criteria which would determine the selection of countries as new permanent members.

5. Government remain fully committed to our traditional active foreign policy based on well-established principles. All necessary actions to safeguard and promote India's national interest in the international arena would continue to be taken.

G-15 Summit

*144. PROF. P.J. KURIEN :
SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a delegation headed by the Prime Minister had participated in G-15 Summit in Harare recently;

(b) if so, the issues that were discussed at the Summit and the issues that were raised by India;

(c) the outcome of the Summit including the salient features of the conclusions arrived at in this Summit and India's reaction thereto;

(d) the benefits likely to accrue to India as a result of the Summit;

(e) whether any discussions relating to the united strategy to deal with the challenges posed by globalisation of economy and W.T.O. were held during the Summit;

(f) if so, the details thereof and role played by India in it; and

(g) the composition of Indian delegation and the expenditure incurred on the visit of the delegation?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (g). Yes, Sir. Prime Minister led the Indian Delegation to the Sixth Summit of G-15 the Summit level Group for South-South Consultation and Cooperation which was held in Harare, Zimbabwe from November 3-5, 1996. All G-15 countries were represented at the Summit, seven of them at the Head of State/Head of Government level, two at the Vice-Presidents level and the rest at the Ministerial/Special Envoy level.

G-15 Summit affirmed the viability of the Group as a forum for bringing about a better understanding among developing countries of their vital interests with regard to emerging global issues. India played an active role by drawing attention to concerns and prospects of developing countries in the evolving international trading system with special reference to WTO issues. There was a broad convergence of views on a number of key areas.

On South-South Cooperation, the Sixth G-15 Summit registered progress. Well-conceived techno-economic projects including the five coordinated by India will lead the way in providing technical cooperation and stimulating private sector joint ventures. Indian projects which are in an advanced stage of implementation encompass cooperation in Solar Energy Applications, Gene Bank of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants, Computer Training Programmes, Small Scale Industries Cooperation and an Entrepreneur and Technical Development Centre for vocational training. The Sixth Summit agreed to pursue these projects in a result-oriented manner and pledged effective participation by member countries.

The Summit addressed the problem of unsustainable levels of indebtedness in developing countries, including the Least Developed Countries. The Summit condemned all acts of terrorism and called for enhanced intra-G-15 cooperation to combat this problem.

The G-15 Summit provided an occasion for India to give a sharper focus to its political and economic relations with Africa. A special initiative of a revolving Fund for Africa of Rs. 100 crores was announced. This will involve technical coopertion as well as trade and investment finance components. The Fund will facilitiate greater participation by India in the development of Africa and enable Indian trade and industry to establish a significant presence in Africa. Another continental initiative relating to Africa is India's offer to establish an Informatics Training Centre for Africa in Zimbabwe. MoUs were signed with Zimbabwe and Senegal for Small Scale Industries cooperation, which would also serve as demonstration models for other African countries.

The G-15 constitutes a nucleus of our larger efforts to promote Economic and Technical Cooperation among